

“The Power that Made & Preserved Us a Nation”

Selected Scripture

- I. God determined the existence of nations (Gen. 10:5, 20, 31-32; 11:1-9; Dt. 32:7-9).
- II. God determines the historical circumstances of every nation (Acts 17:26).
 - A. Its People—*“from one man every nation”*
 - B. Its History—*“having determined their appointed times”*
 - C. Its Geography—*“having determined...the boundaries”*

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III. God determines the rulers of every nation.

- A. Negatively: God is not directly responsible for establishing wicked, abusive rulers and ruthless regimes.
 1. He allows Satan limited authority over the kingdoms of this world (Lk. 4:5-6)
 2. He allows Satan to appoint specific demons to influence earthly rulers, nations, and kingdoms (Dan. 10:13)
 3. He allows Satan to place, empower, and use certain rulers to oppose God and His purposes (Ps. 2:1-3; Ezek. 28:11-19; 2 Th. 2:8-9; Rev. 2:10).
- B. Positively: God either places or permits every ruler in every nation, at every moment of its history (Dan. 2:19-21a, 37; 4:17, 25b, 32, 34-37).

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IV. God examines & responds to the moral state of every nation (Pr. 14:34; Jer. 18:7-9; Amos 1-2).

A. Acknowledge our nation’s sins honestly (Pr. 14:34)

1. Our founders were not Christians but theistic rationalists.
2. Our nation has never fully lived up to its ideals.
3. As a people, we have become increasingly pagan.

B. Pray for repentance for its leaders & people (Neh. 9:1-37; Dan. 9:1-19).

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- V. God determines the prosperity of every nation (1 Ch. 29:12; Job 12:23; Ps. 65:8-13; Acts 14:16-17)
 - A. Give thanks for its blessings (Ps. 136).
 - B. Desire & pray for its continued prosperity (Jer. 29:7).
- VI. God determined to save sinners from every nation through the gospel of His Son (Mt. 28:20; Lk. 24:46-47)